

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

SP-02 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-02

PRS-01 STR-04 FEA-01 OES-06 INT-05 AGR-10 /103 W

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R 071215Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6624

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 5907

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD PFOR BR BG

SUBJECT: VISIT OF GABONESE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE TO
BRAZIL

REF: (A) BRASILIA 5351, (B) LIBREVILLE 1119, (C) LIBREVILLE 1123

1. SUMMARY: DURING HIS VISIT TO BRAZIL (JUNE 9-16), GABONESE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, ETIENNE MOUSSIROU, HELD GENERAL TALKS WITH VARIOUS PRIVATE FIRMS, THE MINISTERS OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, AND OFFICIALS IN THE BANCO DO BRASIL. THE GOB CONFIRMED THE GRANTING OF A US\$10 MILLION LINE OF CREDIT TO GABON BUT NO AGREE-MENTS WERE REACHED. END SUMMARY.

2. IN RIO DE JANEIRO (JUNE 9-11), MOUSSIROU MET WITH OFFICIALS OF "INTERBRAS" (GOB TRADING COMPANY), "CACEX" (FOREIGN TRADE DEPARTMENT OF THE BANCO DO BRASIL), AND SEVERAL CIVIL ENGINEERING/ CONSTRUCTION FIRMS. MOUSSIROU THEN VISITED SAO PAULO AND SALVADOR BEFORE ARRIVING IN BRASILIA JUNE 15 WHERE HE MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ANTONIO AZEREDO DA SILVEIRA AND
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MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE SEVERO GOMES.

MOUSSIROU AND BANCO DO BRASIL PRES. CALMON DE SA ALSO SIGNED AN AGREEMENT EXTENDING A US\$ 10 MILLION LINE OF CREDIT TO GABON WHICH HAD BEEN CONCEDED BY THE GOB DURING THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF PRES. BONGO TO BRAZIL LAST OCTOBER.

3. SPECULATING AS TO FUTURE COMMERCIAL TIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, MOUSSIROU NOTED THAT GABON COULD POSSIBLY EXPORT OIL AND URANIUM ORE TO BRAZIL IN RETURN FOR MANGANESE. MOUSSIROU ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT NO CONCRETE AGREEMENT IN THIS REGARD HAD BEEN MADE.

4. SPEAKING AT THE END OF HIS VIST, MOUSSIROU CALLED FOR THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES TO CREATE A SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES WHICH WOULD GRANT THE LDCS A DISTINCT ADVANTAGE IN GAINING ACCESS TO DC MARKETS. MOUSSIROU NOTED THAT THE US, EC, AND CANADA HAVE ALREADY IMPLEMENTED SIMILAR MEASURES BUT HE DESCRIBED THEM AS "VERY LIMITED AND TIMID, WITH SUCH COMPLICATED PROVISIONS THAT NO LDC HAS YET BEEN ABLE TO REALLY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SYSTEM."
CRIMMINS

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